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The sheet of celloidin is easily made by pouring a thin layer of celloidin in alcohol and ether on a clean glass plate.

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THURLOW C. NELSON.

#### EVIDENCE AS TO THE NUMBER OF SEGMENTS IN THE HEAD OF INSECTS

Students of insects estimate the number of somites entering into the insect head variously from one to nine. It appears to the writer that the number of muscle units in the mass of neck muscles may have some bearing on this question. The accompanying section (Plate V, figure 8) shows the condition in the neck of the tussock moth. Here we find five pairs of superimposed muscle bundles extending into the head. This fact perhaps strengthens the view that the five pairs of modified appendages about the head stand for so many segments. This muscular arrangement is quite generally found in insects.

E. W. ROBERTS.

#### ANIMAL MICROLOGY

This well known book, now also well used for ten years, has recently been reissued in an enlarged second edition. The new volume represents a 20% increase over the original. The plan of the first edition has been maintained. This consists of a series of chapters dealing with the steps necessary in handling various kinds of animal materials; the reason for taking these steps in the way suggested; the points where difficulties are most likely to be encountered and the way to avoid these; and thus the means of discovering and remedying defective results.

In appendices are given an elementary treatment of the microscope and the principles of its making and use; a record of the formulæ for the making of the most used reagents, and suggestions for using them; a table of the tissues and organs of animals, and the most accepted method of killing, fixing, hardening, sectioning, staining, and other technic if any; a brief description of the methods peculiarly suitable to various groups of animals; and finally tables of weights and measures, and equivalents.

While the plan has not been changed, changes have been made thruout. New items have been added, many sections have been wholly recast, and two new chapters have been inserted. In these various ways has the essential progress of the intervening years been recorded. The new chapters are, "Some Cytological Methods," and "Drawing." Each of these adds distinctly to the value of the book to the student and teacher. The chapter on drawing fills a very real need in our histological laboratories. The book is sure to continue one of the most useful in existence to teachers and students in zoological laboratories.

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Animal Micrology; Practical Exercises in Zoological Micro-Technique. By M. F. Guyer. University of Chicago Press. 1917. Price, \$2.00 net.

#### AN INTRODUCTION TO NEUROLOGY

Under this title Professor Herrick has issued a book designed to enable the student to organize his conceptions of the regional differentiation of the nervous system in man, and to relate to this the functional diversity, and to do this from the beginning. In other words this treatise summarizes the facts and relations which will satisfactorily introduce the reader to the necessary foundations of neurology without all the complexity of detail presented in the elaborate manuals of the subject. This fact makes the book peculiarly valuable to students of medicine, psychology, hygiene especially of nervous processes, education, sociology, general zoology, physiology,—not only as furnishing an undergraduate course in neurology preliminary and introductory to these, but as an aid and supplement to such undergraduate studies and to the general student. In the opinion of the reviewer the author has done a real service to the teacher and student who needs a simplified yet consistent statement of the facts and principles of neurology.

Chapters I to VII discuss the more general neurological topics,—as nervous functions in the large, the neuron, reflex circuits, receptors and effectors, the anatomy and functions of the nervous apparatus. Chapters VIII to XVIII present an analysis of the chief subdivisions of the nervous system, including the organs of reception, and the functions of these various parts. The conclud-